

From: pug@smtp1.realconnect.com@inetgw
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/16/02 2:34am
Subject: More comments regarding the settlement.

Microsoft is to "give away" software as part of this settlement. Doesn't anyone else see the total stupidity of this? The original case dealt with their monopoly. What software is Microsoft going to give away? Microsoft products... thus PERPETUATING the monopoly.

I keep hearing more and more about the settlement, and the more I hear, the more I realize that Microsoft is going to be allowed to do whatever it wants, including the blatant breaking of laws and the ability to maintain an effective monopoly.

All throughout the trial, Microsoft wanted its "freedom to innovate." Well, a little research will tell many people that Microsoft hasn't innovated a single thing. DOS was purchased for them. Windows is what they took out of the joint development of OS/2 with IBM. There are too many early word processors to name. Lotus 1-2-3 gave rise to Excel and Harvard Graphics to PowerPoint. NCSA Mosaic gave rise to Internet Explorer, a trademarked name Microsoft blatantly stole from a small company which Microsoft ran into the ground when they sued for trademark infringement. Sybase sold them a copy of their database server and they used it to make SQL Server. Outlook came from various other e-mail programs including Eudora.

The consumers have lost their one chance to be given the choices they should have. This settlement is a sham.

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